

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 05712 182159Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 182040Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7709

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

UNCLAS LA PAZ 5712

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, EPAP, SENV, BL

SUBJECT: MERCK INSTITUTE REQUEST FOR MONKEYS

REF: STATE 179674

1. CHIEF DEPARTMENT WILDLIFE AND NATIONAL PARKS OF BOLIVIAN AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY, GASTON BEJARANO, ASKS EMBASSY ASSISTANCE RE EXPORT MARMOSET MONKEYS(REFTEL). HE ASKS THAT EMBASSY PASS MESSAGE TO MERCK URGIN COMPANY TO SEND QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE TO LA PAZ BETWEEN AUGUST 21 TO 28 TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATION WITH MINISTRY FOR EXPORT.

2. BEJARANO EXPLAINED THAT AUTHORIZED EXPORT OF 300 MARMOSETS BEING HELD UP BY DISAGREEMENT OVER MINISTER'S INSISTENCE THAT FIRM PAY US \$30 TAX ON EACH MONKEY WITH US \$15 PAID IN ADVANCE. ALTHOUGH BEJARANO STATES THAT TAX NOT PROVIDED FOR IN RECENTLY ADOPTED BOLIVIAN WILDLIFE LAW, HE BELIEVES COMPANY MAY WISH TO PAY AT LEAST IN PART. HE HOWEVER ALSO BELIEVES COMPANY COULD ASSURE EXPORT UNDER BEST TERMS AND PERHAPS OF FURTHER QUANTITY (UP TO 1,000 MORE) IF REPRESENTATIVE WOULD VISIT LA PAZ WHILE HE IS IN TOWN TO HELP. HE WILL BE TRAVELING TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER AND THERE IS URGENCY BECAUSE ONISHI HAS ALREADY CAPTURED 100 MONKEYS WHICH MUST BE SHIPPED OR RELEASED. BEJARANO SUGGESTS MERCK SEND LEO GERMANDEZ, COMPANY'S LIMA REP.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT COMMERCE AGAIN CONTACT MERCK AND PASS ABOVE REQUEST. PLEASE HANDLE BEJARANO'S COMMENTS

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WITH DISCRETION.

STEDMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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